# COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER

MINIO DIE OF

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MAJESTY THE QUEEN,

The state of the King's Dominions, produced by Measures adopted during her Majesty's absence—On the Designs of her Majesty's Enemies-On the Conduct of the Nobility towards her; not forgetting the Conduct of the Prince of Saxe Cobourg.

London, 10th Aug. 1820.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY.

The measures pursued by your Majesty at St. Omers, and since that time, so clearly indicate surprising strength of mind, that the humble individual, who most respectfully tenders this paper for the perusal of your Majesty, may well fear, that he public may deem it preumptuous to offer any thing in

intimately connected things, with your Majesty's own affairs, of which things, from the nature of your Majesty's late situation, it is scarcely possible that you can have been accurately informed. To give your Majesty some information with regard to these, to give you also a faithful account of what the public think of the designs of your enemies; and, moreover, to offer you some remarks on the conduct of the nobility and that of the Prince of Saxe Cobourg, with regard to your Majesty; to do this the writer of this paper looks upon as his duty; and, in the performance of this duty, he feels a satisfaction great as it is possible for man to experience.

When we find a great mass of enmity at work against us, and a manifest desire to effect our destruction; and when, at the same time, we are convinced that we have given no just cause for such enmity, it becomes us to seek for the real mothe way of advice to your Ma- tive by which our enemies are Yet there are certain actuated, and thereby to know

how to arm ourselves in a way to secure our defence. The proceedings against your Majesty; I mean the long series of the proceedings from 1813 to the present day, are of so extraordinary a nature; so apparently hostile to the interests of the established order of things; so completely unprovoked in outward appearance; the charges against you are so loose, so improbable in point of fact, and even of time, so wholly unnecessary to be produced: in short, the whole of the persecution of your Majesty presents a tissue of such apparent inconsistencies and follies, as well as of cruelties, that there must be some cause at work which is not discoverable to the naked eye. We know that personal hatreds, and especially in certain cases, are very strong, very powerful motives of action; but still, it is very seldom that they proceed so far as to set at nought considerations connected with our own We must look much safety. farther for motives sufficient to induce measures obviously likely to convulse the nation for the sake of ejecting your Majesty from our shores. Plainly to describe these motives; to men- to which I am referring, and at tion the parties by name; these which time your Majesty most

are more than I dare do; but it may be sufficient, or it may, at any rate, be of use to your Majesty, for me to lay with all hemility before you, a brief account of what has taken place in this kingdom since your Majesty's departure from it in 1814.

At that time nothing but sounds of exultation and joy were heard in our courts and palaces; and the nation, deluded by the sounds, gave itself up to all the wildness and madness of intoxication. In those brilliant and delusive scenes your Majesty was not permitted to be a partaker. The maddening joy was of short duration; and why should we not believe that it was the act of Providence to preserve your Majesty from & participation in those scenes of joy and revelry? The great experience of your Majesty will have taught you, that affliction ought frequently to be a subject of congratulation with the sufferer; and that the very things which we are sometimes deploring, are the things most necessary to our good, to our final success, if not to the preservation of our lives. At the time

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justly and most feelingly com-useries of uninterrupted happibeen the result; having seen from war to peace. having beheld the ruin and misery produced by the events which were at that time the subject of drunken exultation; where is the man who does not now in his heart congratulate your Majesty upon having been excluded from all share in that exultation! Where is the man who can view your Majesty's present situation, without feeling his heart sink within him, at the idea of your being abandoned to the fury of your foes; and who can look at the manifold niseries of the nation, without exclaiming, " in the producing of these this persecuted Queen has never participated in the smallest degree."

The peace which had been ffected in a manner fresh in our Majesty's recollection, was eld forth by those same minis-

plained of your exclusion from ness and prosperity to the nation. the drawing-rooms of the late But, scarcely were the ratifica-Queen; at that time there was tions exchanged when the denot a just person in the whole lusive hope became apparent. kingdom, who did not feel sor- At first it was pretended that row for your Majesty, and indig-the ruin which began to spread nation against your persecutors. itself around had been produced But, now, having seen what has merely by a sudden transition how delusive were those joys; tion, which was broached by Lord Castlereagh, was echoed and re-echoed by the tongues of the servile and the foolish from one end of the kingdom to the Time, which tries alk other. things, has, at last, set the stamp of folly upon this doctrine. Five years of Peace have seen nothing but an increasing augmentation of the ruin; till, at last, no man is found bold enough to say that there is a possibility of rescuing the nation from general bankruptcy, or of saving it from the horrors of some great convulsion.

Before your Majesty's arrival more than a thousand petitions, coming from every class in the community, represented to the parliament that ruin had laid its hands on agriculture, on commerce, on manufactures, on trade of every description, and that ers, who are now your Majesty's actual starvation was at work ccusers, as fraught with a long in the destruction of thousands

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had unequivocally declared its utter incapacity to afford a remedy. It had declared that it could do nothing in the way of yielding relief, and that the sufferers must be left to find a remedy in their capacity for suffering. r la penece.

This was the general state of the nation at the time of your Majesty's arrival. In this state of the nation there was quite enough to make us doubt of the wisdom of the men by whom people themselves. it's affairs had been conducted; and quite enough to make us rejoice in the thought, that, since your Majesty was doomed to have enemies, your enemies should be found amongst men of that description. But, not only of the nation's sufferings of the description above given, is it necessary that your Majesty should be informed, the diminution of its liberties; the althese are things Majesty, and some account of rise to such a mode of election before you.

of the people of this once happy something of the many acts, community. The parliament which I shall not attempt to describe, committed against the people, under the name of radicals. Your Majesty must have seen, that they are spoken of as worthless, base, turbulent, and rebellious wretches. Before I close my account of the proceedings just alluded to, I shall explain to your Majesty the meaning of this word radical; for, as your Majesty will clearly perceive, you are as deeply interested in this matter as the

For more than fifty years there has been a struggle going on on the part of the people to obtain a reform in the House of Commons. The Constitution of this country is, that the power of making laws shall exist in a King, a House of Peers, and a House of Commons, the latter of which shall consist of persons freely chosen by the people, and in such a way too, that the Peers and terations that have been made the King shall not at all interin its laws, and the causes of fere in, or attempt to influence, this diminution and of these al- the election of the members of the House of Commons. worthy of the attention of your various circumstances have given which I will endeavour to lay as has, in fact, very much changed the effect of these provisions. Your Majesty must have heard | The real state of the House of

Commons I shall not attempt to unless he has some voice in the describe. But, it may be necessary to state, that a petition, laid before the House of Commons itself in 1793, by the present Lord Grey, and signed by the present Duke of Bedford and many others, averred that a majority of that house was returned to it by Peers, by a few other opulent men, and by the King's treasury. The petitioners tendered proof of the facts at the bar of the house. The petition was received. It is now amongst the records of parliament. But no proceeding ever took place upon it; and the House of Commons has remained unreformed.

The members of the House of Commons are called the representatives of the people. The law says that men are punished legally, upon the ground that they have, by their representatives, given their assent, to the laws by which they are punished. But, it is very clear that if the Peers, a few opulent men, and the treasury, return a majority of the members; the grounds above stated are undermined, and become nothing. The law says that no man shall be taxed without his own consent; but it is impossible that

choosing of the persons by whom the taxes are imposed.

It is very notorious that all the people of this kingdom are taxed; and, therefore, the reformers contend that every man, being of sane mind and mature age, and free from all legal disqualifications on account of ipfamy of character, should participate in the choosing of those, whose business it is to impose the taxes and to determine on the mode of expending them.

It is further urged by the reformers, that no man (with the above exceptions) ought to be excluded from this right, seeing that no man is exempted from the duty of coming forth, upon command of the King, to serve as a soldier in defence of the country. The law compels, and justly compels, every man to perform this duty. The reason of this is, that every man is benefitted by the safety of the country. He is benefitted by that safety in a greater or less degree; according to the extent of his possessions. The poor man has a property in his labour; but, if it be denied to him that his labour is property; if it be denied to him to give he can give his consent to a tax, his voice in the choosing of

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Those who tax him; if he have become strong in proportion to nothing to do with the laws but to obey them; if this be his dens and sufferings. No tax situation, it is very difficult to discover what he possesses, what he has to preserve, and upon what ground it is that he is called upon to abandon his home and hazard his life.

The light, which has burst forth upon so many other countries, and which has broken the bands of despotism and superstition; which has raised the humble and laid the mighty in lings. the dust: this light was not wanted in England, where the tion, whether a House of Comtrue principles of liberty had been understood for so many ages, and where the principles upon which the reformers have proceeded, are inscribed in every page of the laws. But, while reformations were taking place in other countries, it was not to be supposed that Englishmen would not endeavour to recover that portion of their rights of the Bourbons, the Pope, the which time and their own in- Inquisition, and the Jesuits, and advertence had deprived them. Accordingly, within the last fifty publics of Genoa and of Veyears, a continual struggle has nice. They think that a House been going on, on the part of of Commons chosen by the peothe people, in order to bring ple at large would discover no into practice the principles of reason for granting many milthe constitution and the laws. lions of English money for the These struggles have naturally support of French and other

the increase of the nation's burcan be laid without the assent of the House of Commons, no sum of public money can be expended without the same con-To the weight of the sent. taxes all men now ascribe the sufferings of the nation. And, as the shadow follows the substance, so it follows that the House of Commons have been the cause of the natian's suffer-

There then arises the quesmons, chosen by the people at large, would have laid taxes and produced sufferings in as great a degree. The reformers are of opinion that it would not. They think, that a House of Commons chosen by the people at large would never have granted money to carry on a war, the result of which was the restoration of the bartering away of the re-

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sand pounds a-year for that purpose, while so wretched is the situation of the people at home, that they are shipped off to find their doom as emigrants to Canada or Africa. We have, may it transported; and at the same time to see immense sums of our money granted for the support of French and other emigrants; and we do most religiously believe that we never should have seen these things if the people at large had had the choosing of the Members of the House of Commons.

The reformers believe, that eighty thousand pounds a-year, to be expended in secret services, would never have been granted by a reformed House of Commons; and they take permission to believe also that such a House of Commons would never have been persuaded to grant out of the taxes, and that too in times of the deepest acknowledged distress, a hundred thousand pounds a-year as a gift to the clergy of the immensely rich Church of England.

To enumerate the grants in

emigrants, during the late wars; rious other ways, would render and for still granting fifty thou- my statement too tedious. Suffice it to say that to such a situation have things been brought, that all hope is abandoned of a liquidation of the debts in which the nation is involved; that compounding or bankruptcy is please your Majesty, lived to inevitable; and that even in see Englishmen petition to be parliament itself, it has been suggested, that the owners of the land must divide their possessions with the creditors of the state; while it is notorious, and, indeed, openly acknowledged in the Houses of Parliament, that capital is fleeing for safety from England to other countries, and while some have proposed measures of force to impede or punish the transfer.

In such a state of things, it is no wonder that the people seek a remedy in a reform of the House of Commons. Duty to their king and country, as well as love for themselves and their families, urge them to seek such reform; this is what they have done; and for having done this, great numbers. under the name of Radicals, have been punished with the utmost severity. Early in the year 1817, petitions signed by a million and a half of men were presented to the parliasinecures, pensions, and in va- ment, beseeching the Houses to

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grant them the desired reform. | Committees were appointed ; By the persons signing these petitions; by the immense multitudes collected in various parts of the country for the discussion of this important subject, no act of riot, no breach of the peace, no sort of disorderly conduct was committed. If every individual of those millions had been held in bonds for his good behaviour, the conduct of the people could not have been more peaceable or more orderly. Sobriety and good sense prevailed all over the country, which exhibited a people, of whom the government ought to have been proud.

Will your Majesty believe, that these petitions, instead of being patiently listened to; instead of being made the subject of attentive perusal and careful and dispassionate discussion. were made the ground of accusation against the petitioners, who were loaded with the most opprobrious reproach. Without time being given for the presenting of one half of these petitions, charges were preferred against the people; Green Bags were laid before the Parliament by the very same men who have now brought down Green Bags against your Majesty. Secret

and without the examination of any witnesses in support of the evidence, as it was called, which was contained in those Green Bags, reports were made upon the contents of the bags by the Secret Committees; and, upon those reports, without examining any evidence at all, a Bill was brought in and passed, authorising the Ministers to put into any prison that they chose, any man or woman whom those Ministers might suspect, or say that they suspected, of Treasonable practices! This they were enabled to do without furnishing the imprisoned person with any charge against him; without telling him who were his accusers, and without giving him any knowledge at all of the place of his imprisonment, or of even the probable duration of that imprisonment. In consequence of this law, great numbers of men were seized, dragged from their wives and families, loaded with irons like malefactors, and imprisoned in the jails intended to hold none but the guilty and the wicked. Some of these men were imprisoned in places two hundred miles distant from their wives and children, who scarcely knew what had become of their hus-During the bands and fathers. imprisonment, all free commuited:

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dicted. They were allowed to not previously examined by their keepers. In this miserable state they were kept for nearly twelve months; and then turned out of their dungeons without any trial; without any compensation for their sufferings. They had to return to their ruined and starving families, hunted still and pursued by the base and atrocious calumniators of a press devoted to their persecutors. One of these men, with a mind unable to bear his calamities, yielded to despair, and put a period to his miserable existence in the prison to which he had been committed. And, after all this, a Bill was passed to protect against the operations of the laws all those persons who had violated even the law, by authority of which these men were put in prison!

Your Majesty does not, I am sure, suppose that Englishmen will ever forget these things. They remember them well; and if it had been possible for them to forget them, the proceedings against your Majesty would have prevented such criminal forgetfulness. At the same time when this horrid law was passed, others were passed for obstructing the freedom of speech and of the press. In addition to these, six other Acts were passed during the last session of parliament; and the nature and tendency of these Acts are such as to make us ashamed of our country. We no longer dare to meet in open

nication with them was interdicted. They were allowed to receive and to send no letters not previously examined by their keepers. In this miserable state they were kept for nearly twelve months; and then turned out of their dungeons without any trial; without any compensation for their day as heretofore, to express our opinions upon political subjects; and, to write or publish what may be deemed seditious, now subjects us to banishment. If our forefathers had been told that such would be the lot of their descendants, they would have regarded the prediction as proof of insanity.

From step to step the country has been brought into a state such as can be designated by no other word than that of slavery. No human being can describe the difference in our present situation and that in which our But, the forefathers lived. thing which most strongly marks the difference is, that a system of spies and informers is now openly acknowledged to exist, even by theministers themselves Your Majesty has read, in English writers of only fifty years ago, the most bitter sarcasms on the French nation for submitting to live under a government that openly and avowedly made spies a part of its establishment. This fact of the employment of spies by the French government was a topic of never ending satyr with Englishmen. alas! Englishmen have lived to hear their King's ministers not only confess that they employ spies, but justify the act, nay, boast of the act with unblushing effrontery.

dom of speech and of the press. In addition to these, six other Acts were passed during the last session of parliament; and the nature and tendency of these Acts are such as to make us ashamed of our country. We no longer dare to meet in open of this infamous description.

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too well acquainted with the means that have been resorted to to collect what is called evidence against you; Green Bags and Secret Committees, reports of those Committees and Bills founded on those reports, are fresh in their recollection; and with all these before them, and with all the experience that they possess of the disposition of your accusers, they can be at no loss to discover what are the designs of your enemies; designs much easier to perceive than it is safe to describe.

One thing I humbly beg leave to suggest to your Majesty as peculiarly proper to bear in mind; and that is, that your Majesty's enemies are the same who committed the above mentioned acts against the people. Their mode of proceeding in the two cases are so similar that it must have emanated from the same minds in both cases. The reformers were calumniated. They had ascribed to them actions that they never contemplated; motives that never entered their minds. Their enemies proceeded against them not by the laws, but by new contrivances. It was found that their conduct was an offence against no law; and, therefore, new laws were made, for their punishment and their ruin. It was pretended that a state ne-

They perceive clearly the jesty. We know well what it grounds of the accusations means. We know that the against your Majesty; they are whole might be expressed by one single horrid word; but to use that word is, as yet, too much even for these men.

> The whole nation sees that the main design has been to get your Majesty out of England. This is a fact which cannot be disguised. All the pretended immoralities, all the licentious intercourse, which has been so slanderously and infamously declared to have existed; all these would have been overlooked, if your Majesty would have consented to abandon England. It was your Majesty's resolution to come here that exasperated your enemies; and your royal resolution to remain here now drives them to madness.

There is something so unjust towards the nation in this project for forcing your Majesty to reside abroad, that it has not failed to shock every person of correct mind. And, with 1egard to your Majesty it is cruelty beyond any thing that any person in the world beside your Majesty has ever experienced, to drive you from a country in which you are beloved, to be a wanderer amongst those who may care nothing for you; to lead a weary and disconsolate life; to meet old age without cheering recollection or comforting associates; and, at last, to drop into a Foreign grave without a friend to close your cessily existed for shutting men eyes. The man that can desire up arbitrarily in prison. This is this must be barbarous in his precisely the language made use very nature. It is a series of of to justify the proceedings evils that one would not wish made use of against your Ma- to the bitterest enemy. Such

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the breast of an Austrian or a Russian; and shall it be said that it found a place in the breasts of any portion of the people of this kingdom!

But, there is a certain description of men in this country, whom it is not necessary for me minutely to describe to you. Majesty, who have long since discarded every feeling of humanity; and who are prepared for any and for every act necessary to prevent what they deem injury to themselves. I, therefore, beg leave humbly to suggest to your Majesty, that nothing on the part of these men, ought to be regarded as improbable, because it is unnatural and monstrous.

In the magnitude, in the overswoln magnitude of evil, there is sometimes, however, good in the result. The excessive desire of your enemies to chase you from the shores of England, will, I am convinced, be the cause of defeating its own purpose. And if it fail of this purpose, it will affect no other. It will leave your Majesty more beloved than you would have been if it had never existed. will in the end have the effect of producing to you some compensation for your sufferings.

From the moment of your Majesty's arriving amongst us it was evident, that the nobility had taken their side. To hear their creatures of the press allege motives of morality for this, excited ridicule as well as contempt; especially when we considered of what persons these

a wish would be savage even in public were not to be deceived by a poor artifice like this; and the real motive being perceived, together with its being well recollected that those who are now the bitterest calumniators of your Majesty were amongst the most zealous apologists for conduct which was censured in the case of Mrs. Clarke! When the public took this view of the matter, they wanted very little to enable them to explain the motives of the moralists who kept aloof from your Majesty; and the conclusion they drew was precisely the contrary of that which it was expected they would have drawn. They saw, in short, the motive for shunning your Majesty, and were very far from looking upon the act as an example to follow.

From one person, bound to your Majesty by the tenderest ties, next to those of husband, child, and parent, they did expect every thing calculated to soothe, to cherish, to strengthen and to uphold you. Alas! they were disappointed even in this! This disappointment, however, severely as you must have felt the cause of it, will eventually be beneficial to your Majesty. Every man, and especially every young man, who has been able to imagine himself placed in the situation of your Son-in-law has also imagined with what eagerness he would have rushed to your support, and have bid defiance to all danger for the sake of seeing you supported and righted. Every such man has envied the Prince of Saxe Coburg such an opportunity of displaying rigid moralists consisted. The those qualities, the possession

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of which are far beyond every ly when they concluded that if thing that Ministers and Kings can bestow. And every such man now sees in that Prince

nothing to envy.

solely to the people; but in a way singularly advantageous to yourself. Had you been surrounded by courtiers, the feeling of the nation would have been much less strong than it now is, and would not have proved efficient to your protection. Your Majesty is in some measure indebted to the people for choosing your principal adviser and friend. If the whole nation could have voted man by man, they would have assigned that office to Mr. Alderman Wood, who owes not his reputation to any lucky accident; to any intrigue, to any cabal, to immense wealth suddenly acquired; to any of the arts by which men acquire popularity; but to a life of upright conduct, to great and disinterested zeal for the public welfare; and especially to his uniform active humanity upon all occasions where suffering innocence has presented itself before him. was these things that made him Lord Mayor of London two successive years, which is an honor far greater than those of fifty Dukes put together. To have such a man for a friend is worthy of any sovereign; and the bare circumstance of his being the chief adviser of your Majesty, was a sufficient guarantee ings. To address on these subto the nation that the charges jects, and, indeed, to address preferred against you were base you at all has been reserved for and calumnious fabrications, so the people; for those who hothat the nobility reckoned false- nestly express their feelings; for

not supported by them you would be without support.

There appears to have been an error prevalent in your Ma-Your Majesty has been left jesty's mind at the time of your arrival; or, at least, an error in those who advised your Majesty to throw yourself and your cause upon the House of Commons. That House was no tribunal by which your Majesty ought to have been judged. Being accused of crimes, you had, like other persons, to put your case at issue before a jury. This not being granted, no other tribunal ought to have been To exacknowledged by you. press confidence in the House of Commons was unnecessary; and if persevered in, would have led to every consequence which your Majesty must be desirous to obviate. The resolution of that House, communicated to you by deputation, was such as might have better received no answer at all, seeing that this was the only instance in which either House of Parliament had attempted to approach a Queen in any other way than that of address. Your Majesty might have remembered, too, that you received no address of condolence on the death of your brother, though that brother lost his life in gallantly fighting for England; and that you received no address of condolence upon another occasion still more deeply interesting to your feelnat if

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termed a base populace by men who fatten on the fruits of their labour.

Your Majesty's cause requires nothing underhanded; no intrigues; no factious combinations. Men who are intriguing for power, have no feeling in common with your Majesty. They sacrifice every thing to that single object. The ridiculous exhibition of Lord John Russell, in his address to Wilberforce, will doubtless have made your Majesty smile. To to the obsolete Saint, and trying to creep into consequence under the covering of this garb of sanctity, only shews that there is nothing at which faction will stop in order to accomplish its But your Majesty purposes. need entertain no apprehensions from manœuvres of this sort.

This chivalrous young nobleman does not adventure to recommend to the Saint to utter any thing, which can, even by implication, be construed into a possible innocence. His adventurous spirit carries him no farther than to deprecate a trial: and I trust it is not a want of the Bill. due charity that induces me to believe that he would prevent a trial, because he would prevent your Majesty from entering on the full enjoyment of your rights. It is difficult to make out what he means, but we gaplaced in a state of surveil- threatened trial.

those who have been insolently lance; that is to say, to use his own expressions or thoughts, that your Majesty should be constantly watched by the virtuous wives of the nobility. Whether the poor young lord be in his right mind or not, I cannot say; but this I know, that, if one had a mind to be ill natured, one might render this epistle of his a subject of merriment for a month.

It will be better soberly to draw a useful lesson from these miserable attempts at deception. They discover to us very clearly see the proud Whig crawling the weakness of the cause of your Majesty's enemies, whose misgivings are seen in every step that they take. From the moment they perceived that it was your Majesty's resolution to remain in England, they were daunted. They knew not what to do. Procrastination became necessary; and I shall be very much deceived if the much talked of trial be not, at last, further postponed. One postponement after another they may hope will lull the spirit of the public; supposition of your Majesty's and in this, too, they will find themselves deceived. But upon what ground can any postpone-ment take place? There lies ment take place? This Bill has proclaimed your Majesty to the whole world as a person stained with the most dishonourable of crimes. And is this Bill to remain unanswered by you? Is the calumny to remain for your life? For, if the trial can be postther, upon the whole, that he poned for a week, it can be means that the question should postponed for ever. Either let not be brought to issue, but them declare that Bill a calumthat your Majesty should be ny, or proceed at once to their

ance of Lord John Russell is, crawl along the ground before your Majesty will perceive in it they begin to ascend the plant a recommendation of an ever- in order to nestle themselves in lasting suspension of the matter, than which nothing can be more fatal to the rights and honour of your Majesty. Against this, therefore, timely measures ought to be resolved on, if the trial be not proceeded on upon the day appointed; your Majesty will, doubtless, not suffer yourself to be mocked and taunted by the means of procrastination. A fair trial is what your Majesty has always demanded. Your accusers have at last appointed a day for what they call a trial; and if they do not actually proceed on that day, your Mamediately to enter on the full possession of all your rights as Queen your Majesty will be exposed; and that is, to a compromise of some sort. haughty, they are insolent, and they are vain; but, they are cowardly. also mean and basest of men also. A very profound observer has said, that " performed in the same atti-" tude." that a boy crawling upon the spire you. ground may be taken and placed against the trunk of a tree with- am in no apprehension on this out producing any change in score, in which respect I am sathe posture of his limbs. Your tisfied I feel like the people in Majesty has had a great deal of general. Your Majesty's past experience amongst courtiers, conduct is a guarantee for the you have seen them climb and future. The resolution taken at seen them crawl. They gene- St. Omers, and the time and rally begin by crawling, as manner of executing that reso-

Contemptible as the perform- earwigs and caterpillars first amongst the leaves and devour the fruit. But, courtiers, like caterpillars, if shaken down, will crawl again; and it is in this way that they will now endeavour to approach your Majesty.

They have pretty nearly exhausted their threats and their bullying; and they will now endeavour to regain what they have lost by blandishments, and by all sorts of artifices. Not daring to approach you directly, they will make indirect approaches They will endeavour by second hand reports to make you believe that they have not jesty will doubtless proceed im- been in earnest all this while. They will send you kind friends in abundance, and if your Maof this kingdom. I can see but jesty will receive them, they one possible danger to which will act in the double capacity of most sincere friends of your Majesty and of most faithful Your enemies are spies of your enemies. is no trick or contrivance, which cunning can suggest and meanness combined with hypocrisy Haughty men are often the very can execute, which they will not put in motion to induce your Majesty to yield from magnani-" climbing and crawling are mity what you have scorned to yield from the fear with which And it is very true they have endeavoured to in-

However, for my own part, I

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mind of any one as to the line which your Majesty will pursue upon the approaching occasion. Long and cruel as your sufferings have been, the time is not distant when those sufferings will receive their compensation. It is difficult to say whether it be a good or an evil to suffer greatly and to enjoy great compensation; or, at least, it is difficult to say whether these be not preferable to an absence of sorrow, and also an absence of great triumph. It will require much to make your Majesty amends for all your unmerited persecution; but, if the remainder of your life spent amongst a people who will love and honour you, can make you that amends, there is no man in England who doubts that you will receive it. Your enemies have accused the people of disloyalty; and unhappily the slanderers have hitherto been believed. To these slanders the conduct of the people towards your Majesty is the best answer; and now these slanderers have found out that disloyalty consists in disinterested attachment to a Queen. Revolution, hitherio regarded-as so glorious, is now the bugbear conjured up to frighten the timid and the foolish. Your Majesty is too wise to participate in the sot-sickening alarm. It is for the cowardly, the debauched, the companion of drunkards, of gamesters, and of filthy tale-bearers: it is for those who can neither

lution, can leave no fears in the tion, and to turn pale at the shout of a holiday troop. Your Majesty has seen the world, has travelled in inhospitable countries, has been rocked by the waves of the sea, and slept under the thunders of the east.— Your Majesty has experience, that great teacher of knowledge; your natural courage, has been confirmed by a familiarity with dangers; you are capable of great exertion, great application, are blessed with great aptitude of mind, and are capable of arduous application; and with all these endowments joined with a happy constitution, and those manners which are at ouce a subject of admiration and of dread with your enemies, commotions, convulsions, revolutions, may come, if your enemies will have it so; but, even in the midst of these, your Majesty would have nothing to fear.

The writer of this paper knows, probably, as much as most men how the public in England feel with regard to your Majesty; and he happens to know more than most men of the feelings upon the same subject of the people in America. In that country where the society is composed of as moral and religious people as any in the world, and where every thing of importance relating to England, is as well understood as it is here; it is the universal opinion, that your Majesty has, from the first been most unjustly and cruelly treated. The soliwalk nor speak till stimulated citude for your Majesty's welby potions: it is for such to be fare is not greater even in Enghaunted with the fear of revolu- land than it is in that country,

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I have a thousand times been asked whether I thought, that "the poor Princess" would have justice done her, when she came to be Queen. When the news arrived of the death of the Princess Charlotte, the English consul at the city of New York called a meeting to address his present Majesty upon the subject; and the meeting resolved also that an address of condolence should be forwarded to your Majesty. The consul, whose name is Buchanan, and who was appointed to his office by Castlereagh, having objected to this, he was obliged to withdraw and get his own address to the Regent signed in a The people of that country are very good judges of the question. They have read every thing relating to it; and in the whole ten millions I do not believe that ten are to be found whose kindest and most ardent wishes are not with your Majesty. Your Majesty's enemies have made you an object of interest all over the world. They have excited a feeling in your favour to the ends of the earth. The people of England have the eyes of all nations upon them at this moment; and the world will see that Englishmen will do their duty.

With sentiments of the profoundest respect,

Your Majesty's

Most obedient and most
humble servant,

WM. COBBETT.

### A PEEP AT THE PEERS.

Faith! I find that this is no peep, but a very full look at the thing. This work is of a far more extensive nature, I am told, than was anticipated. The complications and ramifications, the links, the hooks, and the ties are so numerous, that the work requires about twenty times the labour that it was expected to However, if report require. speak truth, the labour will not be lost; for the thing is said to be really prodigious. It will, I am told, make it's appearance on Tuesday next, or on Wednesday at latest; and if the authors take my advice, they will dedicate it to her Majesty, the Queen; for it appears to me more likely to be of use to her Majesty, than to any other person in the kingdom, though it cannot fail, I think, to be of great use to us all.

#### WARWICK ASSIZES.

The result of the prosecution against Mr. Wooler, Major Cartwright, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Maddocks, and Mr. Edmonds, 18 such as will surprise nobody who has been an observer of what has been passing for some time. The Defendants behaved with great courage, and displayed in their defence great ability. They are amongst the many that have been doomed to suffer in this great struggle.-But, they ought to feel consoled by the reflection, that the cause of truth and justice will finally triumph. They are amongst those men, who will hereafter be objects of national gratitude.

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## MIDDLESEX MEETING.

Pursuant to a public requisition, directed to the Sheriff of Middlesex, a meeting was held on Tuesday at the Mermaid tavern, Hackney, to take into consideration the propriety of presenting an Address to the Queen. The meeting was fixed for twelve o'clock; but at that hour very few individuals had assembled. Before one o'clock the great room was completely filled, and the Sheriff not making his appearance, much disapprobation was shewn. At halfpast one o'clock Mr. Sheriff Parkins made his appearance, and was received with much apby Mr. P. Moore, Dr. Parr, Mr. Sam. Whitbread, Mr. Alderman Waithman, and Mr. Alderman Wood, who were hailed with the most enthusiastic cheers.

After a short pause Mr. Sheriff Parkins advanced to the front of the hustings, and apologized to the assembly for the delay which, he observed, had unavoidably taken place. A gentleman, whose presence was absolutely necessary on this ocsion, had been accidentally delayed on the road, and to that circumstance alone was the postponement of the proceedings to be attributed. He would now proceed to business in a summary way; but before he did so, he wished to say a few words to the meeting; and, for fear they should be misrepreread. He then proceeded to here to it. Would to God that

read a written paper, in which he complained of the venality of the newspaper press, charging it, in general, with send ng forth unfaithful statements to the public of the proceedings of public men, and declaring that no man had been more frequently misrepresented by it than he had been: and he accused the press of the metropolis with being subservient to those who paid it best. From this general censure he excluded the Sunday newspapers. From amidst the host of talent and integrity which that part of the public press comprises, he particularly selected. The Examiner, The Constitution, and The Independent Whig! The lastmentioned paper had voluntaplause. He was accompanied rily and gratuitously inserted the advertisement relative to the meeting of this day, which The Times newspaper had refused to receive unless paid for beforehand. The address then went on in substance to declare Mr. Sheriff Parkins's opinion that meetings of this description were calculated to defeat rather than to serve the great object which all good men had in view—that of conciliation. He, however, was ready to sacrifice his own private opinions to the sentiments expressed by a large body of respectable individuals. The principle that governed his conduct on this occasion was, that the most exalted officer in the state, was only the highest servant of the nation. That principle he had always professed; he had brought it with him into sented, he would have them office, and he should always ad-

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of great public bodies was more attended to by the three estates of the realm! If that had been the case, the question which the freeholders were now assembled to canvass would never have come under their consideration. In conclusion, the worthy Sheriff, by his address, expressed his desire that nothing should be offered to the meeting save what was strictly in unison with the terms of the requisition.

The requisition (signed by 68 freeholders) calling on the Sheriff to convene the meeting, was then read.

A person, whose name we understood to be FLANNAGAN, moved that the correspondence between Mr. Sheriff Rothwell and Mr. Sheriff Parkins be read to the meeting.

Mr. Sheriff PARKINS said he had a number of papers on the subject adverted to, which were at the service of the hon. gentleman.

Mr. FLANNAGAN observed, that he wished those documents to be read, in order to shew to the meeting why Mr. Sheriff Rothwell was not present on this occasion.

Mr. P. Moore said, as the correspondence was complimentary to the Sheriff, he thought it ought to be read.

Mr. Sheriff Parkins .- " As 1 am not a man of compliment, I will dispense with it."—(Applause.)

Mr. P. MOORE then proceeded tion which had just been read; he was. Indeed, some gentle-

a proper respect for the feelings | but he certainly would have signed it if he had had timely notice that such a meeting was in contemplation. He had been, on all occasions, most happy to meet his brother freeholders of the county of Middlesex, when they thought proper to enter on the discussion of any great subject connected with public affairs. He attended for that purpose on the present occasion. Some gentlemen, who meant to have taken a prominent part in the proceedings, having been accidentally delayed on the road, he was called on to introduce the subject to the meeting, and he would fulfil the task which had devolved on him to the best of his ability. They were, he conceived, much indebted to their patriotic Sheriff-and it was not often they met a patriotic Sheriff, Mayor, or Magistrate, who would call them together for the purpose of consulting on the safety of the constitutionto him they were much indebted on this and on many other occasions, for his readiness in acceding to the popular voice. (Cheers.) As the worthy Sheriff dispensed with the compliment which was contained in the documents that had been recently adverted to, he (Mr. Moore) deemed it proper that the substance of those documents should be stated, because, in his opinion, a compliment so well merited ought not to be (Applause.). He would lost. now proceed to the business of to address the meeting.-He be- the day, and he hoped they gan by observing that his name would make some degree of alwas not attached to the requisi- lowance for an invalid, for such

244 have mely was been, py to ers of when er on subc afpurasion. int to art in been road. oduce , and which e best e, he ed to nd it atriotrate, ether ng on iondebtother ss in voice. Shemphed in been (Mr. that ments se, m nt so to be would ess of they

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sider was that noisome, pestifalse and filthy green bag.-(Cheers). The Queen-God prothe people of England was defending her rights they proher's. (Applause.) For they bill of falsehoods and perjuries, with the liberties of the people. (Applause.) If it were passed, it would be a disgrace for any man to sit in the House of Commons. They would be, in that case, no longer under the controul and protection of fixed and established law: and none but the minions of power—none but the persecutors of this unfortu-Parliament. (Applause.) Members of Parliament might say of the people ought to be and cries of "Yes!") They rests of the people ought to be was what the American General their primary study-all else Lee, in his celebrated Letter to was alien. (Applause.) If mem- the King of Poland, called the Commons to protect the rights Parliament were bribed. In of their representatives against Mr. Burke's bill for regulating

men who had seen him on the now attempted, they had better preceding day concluded that stay away. (Applause.) The he would have been unable to people, under such circumstanattend, "But," said Mr. Moore, ces, would be better without a "here I am." (Applause.) The House of Commons, since it subject which they had to con- only became a legal instrument of oppression. (Cheers.) He ferous, infectious, scurrilous, had for a long time been returned to Parliament for the same city. This honour, he betect her! (loud cheers and lieved, had been conferred on shouts of Amen!)—was only a him, on account of the fidelity great instrument by which the and consistency of his conduct. consideration of the rights of During the period that he had sat in Parliament he had seen brought before the country. In many of these green bags. At was not, therefore, to an insutected their own—in supporting lated green bag, but to the systheir own rights they upheld tem-to a prolongation of green bags-that he called their atwould give him leave to say, tention. The system began with that this foul Bill of Pains and Mr. Pitt, at the commencement Penalties-he would call it a of the French war. It had gone on for a long series of years, --- was intimately connected and, if not stopped now, it would go on till nothing was left of the constitution but the name. (Applause.) He had scanned the contents of various green bags for twenty years, during which he had been a representative of the people; and he had paid attention to others for ten years before he had arrived at that honour. They had nate lady-would be fit to sit in | had many green bags; but they would begin with five or six in a bundle. Gentlemen knew what what they would, but the voice the Civil List was. (Laughter, obeyed. To support the inte- knew it, at all events, by name. It bers did not go to the House of source from which Members of illegal inroads, such as were the Civil List, a clause was in-

troduced, and continued for a sion of the Habeas Corpus Act, long time afterwards, which set | which was effected through the forth certain provisions which medium of a Green Bag, he were necessary " for the more would show what the Opposieffectually preserving the inde- tion had done; for he was dependence of Members of Par-termined, on a great public liament." But, latterly, that question, neither to spare his clause had been left out; so that friend nor his enemy. (Apit was now almost avowed, that, plause.) When a message of as General Lee said, the Civil the kind to which he had al-List was the source of parlia- luded was submitted to a commentary corruption. During the mittee, a member might move, late reign they had several of as his friend, Mr. Tierney, had these green bags, or rather they often done, " that such and such had matters connected with the persons be called and examined, Civil List repeatedly laid before and directed to produce their select committees. When a vouchers for the sums claimed message came from the Throne, by them." "O! no;" said as it was said (but, in fact, it was members, "that won't do at the message of ministers—the all; if we do that, we must be King was mostly ignorant of it, detected. No; we must have and, let him have ever so good no examination of persons—we a heart, he was likely to be de- must keep to the dry vote-yes ceived,) a select committee was or no; and, as there were geappointed to take it into consi- nerally about 18 ministerial to deration. These committees, 3 opposition votes on these comfor some years past, had been mittees, the sum called for was called on to transact a deal of voted. This was a good picbusiness. The compact which ture of a Green Bag Committee, was entered into at the com- though it went under the demencement of the last reign was 800,0001. per annum. The Civil mittee. The only difference List, however, soon got into between the two was this:arrear-arrears of 500,000l. of 800,000l. and of 1,000,000l. accrued from time to time.-Messages came down from the Throne on this subject, which were, as usual, sent to a select perty was to be taken from the committee. To whom were people. As he had before said, those messages referred? Why, to the very men who wanted fixed the Civil List at 800,000l. the money. (Great applause.) a year; but in the course of It was very true that members time it had increased to nearly of the Opposition were fre- 1,400,000l., and, besides that quently placed on those com- sum, arrears to the amount of mittees-and, by-and-by, when 9,500,000l. were paid off at difhe came to speak of the suspen-ferent periods. Such was the

nomination of a Civil List Comthe Green Bag Committee acted when some attack was to be made on the Constitution—the Civil List Committee exerted its powers when a portion of prothe compact with the Crown

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system. He would now touch on the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act a short time ago, which measure, with all its mischiefs, was to be traced to Green Bag information—to the information contained in a Green Bag, of a different description from the present, but no less replete with filth and falsehood. That Habeas Corpus Green Bag accused persons of all ranks throughout the country with treasonable and wicked designs. These accusations were founded on well-calculated perjuries and feasible falsehoods. Well, a committee was appointed to examine its contents, and five members of opposition were nominated on it. The committee made their report, and they were unanimous in declaring that the situation of the country was such as rendered a suspension of the Habeas Corpus necessary. (Shame, shame.) But, from what had since appeared, those whom he addressed must feel, that the Green Bag of that day was just as false and unfounded as the Green Bag which occasioned them now to assemble together. He had a conversation on this subject with an hon. friend of his (Mr. Ponsonby), who was then the leader of the Opposition, and to whom they had given their full confidence. He said to that individual, " My good friend, what kind of evidence had you as to the truth of the contents of this Green Bag?" "Why," said be, " they are founded on dispatches—they are supported by every kind of formality-and well

result of the money Green Bag | believe those statements." His (Mr. Moore's) answer was,-"Then you believe what is false; but I will not tell you why I think so till the report is brought before the House:" and when the report was presented he stood up in his place, and declared that it was a libel on the nation. (Applause.) The Habeas Corpus Act was, however, suspended; and they all knew the mischief that followed. -The Manchester business had a Green Bag of another kind. It was an open one, containing the statements of magistrates, informers, constables, spies, and he knew not what other parties. Their depositions went through all the letters of the alphabet, three times told. But when it was asked, "What people are these? Who is Mr. E.? Who is Mr. K.? and who is Mr. X.?" the answer was, "O! we cannot tell you; there is the matter before you, and you can have no farther information." (Applause.) At length the Green Bag relative to the Queen was laid on the table of the House of Commons, and language was held which created alarm in the minds of ministers. He (Mr. Moore), after witnessing what had been the result of former Green Bags, told the House, that, to save trouble, instead of referring the Green Bag then produced to a select committee. it would be just as well to turn it upside down at once, and write Guilty upon it .- (Laughter.) But a report had been made elsewhere on this foul and filthy bag, as it had been properly denominated by an hon-

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and worthy baronet, the greatest they had not taken up the busipatriot of England, Sir F. Bur- ness sooner. Ministers had exdett (cheers), and he looked plicitly told them that they were upon that proceeding to be a not going to try this illustrious gross stretch of authority, an person by the laws of the coununjustifiable dictum of power. try, but that they were going No tyrant on the face of the to make laws for the purpose. earth could have gone a shorter They could not regulate their or a more effectual way to work. proceedings according to the (Applause.) A pause took place existing law; but they felt it in the House of Commons --- necessary to form laws that even Hypocrisy came forward would sanction their unconstito produce that pause. (Laugh- tutional conduct. The hon. genter.) What was proposed?— tleman proceeded to observe, Ministers found it necessary to that he would excuse the fortake another course, and instead mality of a grand jury in this of insisting that the House of case; he would overlook the Commons should write Guilty formality of having the witon the Green Bag, they were nesses' names on the back of advised, like hypocrites of the the bill---he would even overchurch, to fall down on their look the interference of a petty knees and pray for forgiveness. jury; but, he demanded what (Applause.) Let that advice was of more importance than come from what mouth it might, all, who were the accusers ! it had done good. Here he (Applause.) He was sorry to thought it would be proper, say that all the persecutions amongst other points, to look the Queen had undergone were to the conduct of the church, aided and countenanced by the It was necessary to consider first and highest orders of the what their churchmen were church. He held in his hand about. They ought to afford a list of those whose duty it was consolation to the distressed -- to console the afflicted and supthey ought to administer com- port the distressed, but who, in fort to those who were per- violation of that duty, had come secuted; and yet, he believed, forward and proposed to sever, they would find that some of in the most unnatural manner, them were the supporters and the ties of nature. Those digprotectors of this Bill of Pains nitaries of the church to whom and Penalties. (Shame, shame.) he alluded, and who seemed to Some of them had gone into look more to their rent-rolls the Secret Committee, and had than to their rubrics (a laugh), returned a verdict of " Guilty" had advised that all intercourse on the back of the Green Bag. between the mother and the If the bill which he had just daughter should be prohibited. spoken of passed, away went (Cries of read, read.) It would their whole code of laws--the be sufficient to read a few of the Constitution was gone, and they names, and the first on the list would only have to lament that would show the connection be-

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The first was the most reverend father in God, the Archbishop of Canterbury; then came the Archbishop of York; and after him the Primate of Ireland .---What the devil had the Primate of Ireland to do with the Queen of England? (Laughter.) Then, to fill up a vacuum, as it were, came the Bishop of London; and, in short, there were 21 of them who declared that no intercourse should be allowed between the mother and her daughter. Would it be believed that this advice had come from the church, whose duty it was, in a peculiar manner, to console the afflicted? Consolation, indeed! No; instead of consoling the illustrious lady, who was the object of persecution, they said, "We will add to the distress and the persecution which she already suffers, the deprivation of those comforts which she derives from the feelings of a mother." He was happy to say that there were many men belonging to the church who were an honour to their profession, who honestly paid their debts, and discharged in the most honourable manner every duty that they owed to society; but he had no hesitation in saying that it was the humbler clergy who preserved the Established Church. In conclusion, he called on the freeholders to adhere tenaciously to the Constitution and the rights which it guaranteed; and, by protecting her Majesty from all indignity, to

tween that dictum and the name of Britons, worthy of the Green Bag which had been high character of British sublately laid before Parliament. jects, and worthy of such a The first was the most reverend Queen. (Loud applause.)

The hon, gentleman then proposed the following resolutions, which were seconded by Dr. Parr:—

"1. That this meeting do vote an Address to her Majesty the Queen, to congratulate her Majesty upon her arrival in this country; to condole with her upon the sufferings her Majesty has experienced, and of the persecutions she has undergone; and at the same time to express our admiration at the proofs which her Majesty has given in her conduct of that frankness, integrity, and generosity of character, which so well entitle her to the affections and to the support of all ranks of the community.

"2. That the Bill of Pains and Penalties against her Majesty the Queen, lately introduced into the House of Lords, is replete with matter of alarm, both in its present effects and its more remote probable contingencies.

remote probable contingencies.

"3. That the Queen, as a subject, ought to have the same advantage as other subjects in the fair and equal protection of the laws.

"4. That by the present Bill of Pains and Penalties her Majesty is placed out of the protection of the existing laws, of which, without injustice, the most humble subject cannot be deprived.

"5. That the government of these realms is a limited monarchy, and therefore totally incompatible with an arbitrary legislation.

"6. That the present Bill of Pains and Penalties against her Majesty the Queen, partakes, in its spirit and its character, more of the nature of a despotic than a free government.

"7. That the vague manner in which the charges against her Majesty are stated in the Bill, leads us to suppose that an attempt will be made to infer the guilt of adultery from a multiplicity of loose and incoherent particulars, rather than to prove it by one specific act of criminality.

teed; and, by protecting her Majesty from all indignity, to show themselves worthy of the both in immediate certainty and in

more remote probability, require that the Bill of Pains and Penalties should be withdrawn from the House of Lords, and that her Majesty should, out delay, be established in all her prerogatives, rights, privileges, and immunities, as Queen Consort of these

"9. Resolved, That an address, founded on the foregoing resolutions, be adopted by this meeting; that the sheriffs and members of the county, together with the committee of the requisitionists, and such persons as they shall name, be requested to accompany the same to the Queen, on as early a day as she may be pleased to

fix. ... 10. Resolved, That the representatives of this county, George Byng and Samuel Charles Whitbread, Esqrs. lave full instructions to oppose, with every exertion on their part, that odious Bill of Pains and Penalties, should it unhappily be introduced into the House of Commons.

"11. Resolved, That the sheriff be requested to wait upon some Peer in Parliament, to require him to present the same."

Mr. Mills begged leave to propose an amendment to the fifth resolution. He considered the government of the country to be a limited monarchy, a limited aristocracy, and a limited democracy; and, therefore, he government of one person, had of late become a common

administer them justly and faithfully. He thought that to address the Queen at all on this occasion was erroneous: they should have gone to the King at once, to tell him that he had been imposed upon, and to pray that he would separate himself from the counsels of those who had deceived him. He never could believe that the man who had been beloved by Fox, and revered by Erskine, was such as ministers had endeavoured to represent him to the country. With this feeling he had prepared an address to his Majesty, which he had intended to submit to the meeting for their approbation; but, as he understood that another address would be proposed, he should merely read his own as a part of his speech, without moving that it be adopted by the freeholders. He then read the address to which he referred. It commenced by congratulating his Majesty on his accession to the After claiming the throne. right of petitioning the throne, objected to the unqualified term it expressed the sorrow and in-" monarchy," as implying the dignation of the petitioners that, without his Majesty's sanction, though he was aware that this or that of the legislature, certain overtures had been made mode of expression. In the to her Majesty Queen Caroline, phraseology of Mr. Canning, his by an agent acting under the Majesty's ministers were called immediate direction of his Mathe government of the country; jesty's servants, which had for but they were so, in fact, no their avowed object the treasonmore than his Majesty's grooms. able design of inducing the (Applause.) There was in Eng- Queen, by an illegal bribe and land no government but that of an audacious threat, to renounce law; the King himself was only her just right to a participation the administrator of the laws, in the throne of these realms. and, ere the crown was placed It concluded by praying that his on his head, he must swear to Majesty would institute such an

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might bring to servants as punishment those persons who should be convicted of these treasonable proceedings. He concluded by moving the following amendment to the reso-Jutions :-

"That the Government of these realms is administered by the King, whose power is limited by law; but that a regal power so limited is incompatible with an arbitrary legislature."

This amendment was agreed to, and all the resolutions having been put seriatim, were carried unanimously.

Mr. Moore next moved an address to her Majesty, founded on the preceding resolutions.

The address to the Queen, founded upon the above resolutions, was then read, put, and carried without any dissentient voice.

Mr. P. Moore then begged leave to propose that the address should be presented by Mr. Sheriff Parkins, and the two Members of Parliament for Middlesex.

Sir F. Burdett and John Cam Hobhouse, Esq. should be requested to attend whenever the address was presented to her Majesty. DELL

Mr. P. Moore thought that it might be advisable to have the address presented by a deputation of freeholders.

Mr. Sheriff PARKINS thought that, if a deputation should be appointed to wait upon her Maesty with the address which had just been read to the meeting, it ought not to be limited as to the numbers composing it. imprudence of saying a few more

inquiry into the conduct of his Those who were inclined to go up with the address would be thoroughly welcome.

> The motion was then put, and carried unanimously.

> Mr. Sheriff Parkins informed the meeting, that he was ready to attend upon her Majesty with the address which had just been adopted at any moment which her Majesty might think it good to appoint. Of course he could not answer for the line of conduct which his colleague, Mr. Rothwell, might be inclined to follow.

Mr. S. WHITBREAD then came forward, and said, that as he had been desired to go up with the address which they had just voted, he must request their attention to a few observations which he felt it necessary to make to them on the present occasion. The answer to the desire which they had intimated to him might be conveyed in one of two words, "Yes," or "No." To him it appeared both more just and more advisable that he should say "Gen-Mr. MILLS was of opinion that | tlemen, I have great pleasure in obeying your commands?" but to others, with whom he had no right to quarrel on account of their political opinions, it seemed still better to say, "Gentlemen, I will not obey your commands." It was his opinion, that, even if he differed from them upon this question, he was at least bound to present their address, however opposite it might be to his own feelings: but as, instead of being opposed to their feelings, he went all the way with them, he should incur the

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entertained regarding her Majesty's conduct. Before he entered upon these observations, he could not help remarking, that the time in which their present meeting was holden was rather awkward, on account of the demise which had recently happened in the Royal Family. By meeting at so early a day after the occurrence of that event, they rendered themselves liable to be charged with having a design to excite tumult and disaffection in the country. But what was the meaning of those individuals who were ready to raise that cry against them? He would tell them: they were weak enough to think that, as they had tyrannized for so long a period over the people without meeting with the slightest resistance, they would be able to tyrannize in the same manner also over her Majesty. (Cheers.) The courage and fortitude of the Queen had, however, frustrated all their expectations: in coming over to jesty on that subject they had England, in spite of the menaces which had been thrown out against her, she had not excited less admiration in her friends, than she had terror and alarm among her enemies, who, whatever other weaknesses might be attributed to them. could not be charged with that of possessing too much courage. ministers had taken after this Those individuals, soon after fully proved to him that they they had uttered their threats, were well aware how much found that they had got them- they had been beaten in the selves into a dreadful scrape, House of Commons. Indeed,

words to them than were abso- persuading the country that they lutely necessary for the expla- were ready to come to a comnation of the opinions which he promise with her Majesty. But what was their manner of entering into a compromise? Why, they said, "We will retract nothing, but you must concede every thing." Before they will make the country believe that they were in earnest in making such a proposition to her Majesty, they must make a law to throw a cloud over the good sense and intelligence of England; and, indeed, if they were determined to exercise their tyranny long, they must have recourse even to stronger measures than those which they had recently adopted. What was the next step which they had taken? Nothing less than a recommendation of the House of Commons to her Majesty to abstain from asserting and vindicating her own innocence. As to the proposition which had been made and carried to that effect, he must be excused for saying that he could put no other construction upon it than this—that in addressing her Masaid, "We have insulted you most grossly; but we cannot be happy until you shall have consented to insult yourself." (Loud cheers.) The Queen, he was glad to say, possessed too much spirit and fortitude to submit to so insulting a recom-The step which mendation. and wished to get out of it by the last thing which they had

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"Gentlemen, we cannot manage vou-you have insulted us by kicking out our green bagwe shall therefore take it ourselves to another quarter, where we can be certain of having our secret committees." darling (Cheers.) What might be the consequences of that measure it was impossible for him to tell; but, happen what might, he could not look upon it without experiencing sensations of the utmost horror. It was not they who stood forward in behalf of the rights of her Majesty who could be justly accused of creating riot and disorder: it was those who assailed them that created it, and he believed that nothing would excite greater satisfaction in their minds than any tumult which would give them new reasons for enacting new laws against the liberty of their country. He had now only to inform them that he should be extremely happy to accede to their request, and to present the petition which they had just adopted. He thought that her Majesty might address her royal husband in the language of Queen Catherine :---

"Sir, I desire you, do me right and justice

" And to bestow your pity on me; for "I am a most poor woman, and a "stranger,

" Born out of your dominions, having

"No judge indiffrent, nor no more "assurance

"Of equal friendship and proceed-

After a few other remarks on the front of the hustings, but whom they wished to crush,

said to that august body was, shortly afterwards came forward and said that he had forgotten one of the subjects on which he had intended to address them. His colleague (Mr. Byng) had gone with his family abroad some weeks ago, and there had not been time since the meeting had been called to give him notice of it.

Mr. MILLS then rose, and said that he had an address to his Majesty in his hand, which, whether he moved it or not, he could wish to read to the meeting, in order to record the sentiments which he entertained upon this most important subject. He would preface what he had to say upon it with a remark or two upon the constitution of the House of Lords. He was not sufficiently acquainted with the history of that body to say when it became possessed of judicial authority, nor would he give an opinion whether such authority did or did not rightfully belong to it. This, however, he would say that he called in question the right of twenty-eight members of that House to decide upon the point whether her Majesty should or should not be put into possession of a list of the witnesses who were to appear against her, Even supposing the House collectively to have the power of making such a decision, still he thought that a part, and a small part of it too, could not be equally possessed of it: if they could be so possessed of it, then ministers were also possessed of it; and, whenever there, the same subject, he retired from was any obnoxious individual

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would only have to erect them- | He thought that they ought, esselves into the characters of pecially when he recollected judges, jurors, and accusers, in the fate which had attended on order to do it. He could see no reason why there should be a call of the House on the 17th of August, when there had not been one on the day when they had previously done a judicial action-he meant the day when they had refused her Majesty the names of those who were to appear as witnesses against her. The language of ministers to her Majesty was this :- "We will first examine witnesses against you, and will afterwards give you time to examine into their conduct and character just as long as you please: in the course of the proceedings you will learn where the witnesses live, and that circumstance will help you in your examinations." But supposing that, upon inquiry, no such person as the witness was described to be was to be found in Venice, or in any other part of Italy, what would Sir R. Gifford say then? He would say, "You observe that you can't make out who the witness against her, and we also remember the is whom I have produced against impunity of the perjurers. you: it may be so; but what then? Have you any thing to say in contradistinction to the evidence produced against you, and can you prove what has been alleged against you to be entirely untrue? Good God of Heaven! what woman, if acensed of adultery, could be acquitted on a trial conducted upon such circumstances! Ought not the witnesses to be crossexamined in the very box, and at the very time; in which they wishes of your Majesty's advisers, we

the Douglasses, and the perjuries which it appeared to him that they were daily in the habit of swearing. What, he would ask, was the reason why Lord Eldon had screened them from such prosecution? To prevent a recurrence of similar scenes in future, he could wish the address which he had in his hand to be read over to them.

#### " To THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

"The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the county of Middlesex, in county meeting assembled.

"May it please your Majesty,
"We, your Majesty's dutiful and
loyal subjects, the inhabitants of the county of Middlesex, approach your Majesty's throne with feelings of the most profound sorrow at perceiving that your Majesty's advisers are carrying on an unfair, an unjust, and a cruel prosecution against your royal and long-oppressed Consort.

"We cannot but remember the former foul attempts to destroy her Majesty's fair fame; and, in the present proceeding, we but too clearly see a revival of those attempts. We remem-

Evidence collected in the dark, communicated in sealed bags, submitted to a secret committee, and by that committee moulded into a charge of crime, is so abhorrent from our ideas of justice, that we cannot refrain from praying that it may never be suffered to be a ground of proceeding against

her Majesty.
"To punish by bill is, in our apprehension, wholly contrary to the laws and constitution of England; but when we see the accusers also the judges and jurors, and when we well know that a decided majority of the whole assembly are, at all times, diswere committing their perjury? should be guilty of a shameful want of

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frain from expressing to you our conviction, that, in this case, the world will never be satisfied with the decision of that assembly, whose disposition has been but too clearly manifested in its refusal to furnish her Majesty with the names of the witnesses to be brought against her-in a like refusal with regard to the names of the places where the alleged offences were committedand in the monstrous measure of pro-mulgating the bill so long a time be-fore it permitted her Mujesty to offer any thing in her defence, and by which promulgation it must necessarily have been intended to cause her Majesty to be prejudged by the world, and to bring her to trial already covered with infamy, which ber on we entered

"Therefore, relying on your Majesty's gracious disposition-appealing to your Royal justice against the machinations of your advisers-we most humbly pray that your Majesty will be pleased to restrain those advisers, and to afford your Royal Consort the means of fair and open trial before a lawful tribunal.

"And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray."

Mr. Sheriff PARKINS could not allow this resolution to be put in silence; the subject on which it was founded was not once mentioned in the requisition.

Mr. MILLS maintained a contrary opinion. To worked transfer

The requisition was then read, upon which

Mr. Sheriff PARKINS said that he was willing to give the most liberal construction to it possible; but it certainly could not bear the construction which was now attempted to place upon it. If gentlemen wished co call another meeting on that point, he should be happy to give them an opportunity of doing it. (Cheers.) in ship the

Loud cries were then heard

duty towards your Majesty if we re- | ter which Mr. Mills withdrew his proposition,

Mr. Alderman WAITHMAN declared, that when he first entered into that room, he had no intention of addressing them; and vet, when he told them that he had at last risen with considerable reluctance to place his sentiments before them, he trusted that they would not attribute that reluctance to a want of that common feeling which actuated the whole country, but to other causes, which were of a temporary and transitory nature, and which he had on a former occasion explained at some length to the electors of Middlesex.-He had, however, been asked to move one of the resolutions and as it was one well calculated to obtain and secure the approbation of the people, he thought it right to say a few words regarding it. It was to propose a petition to the Lords, founded on the resolutions which had been just read to them; and that petition-whatever might be the fate of the petition proposed to be presented to the King, was fully within the scope of the requisition.

The Petition was read, and carried, with only one dissentient voice. The reason of that dissent was afterwards stated to be, that the gentleman who expressed it did not think the Lords to be worth petitioning, and that no good could be effected by it.

SIT FRANCIS BURDETT, being loudly called on by the meeting, came forward, and was greeted with general cheers. He said of "withdraw, withdraw;" af- he had arrived in town late last

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night, and had then, for the first | ments which had recently been meeting was convened. He was, rather like the paying off of old at first, rather unwilling to at scores than visitations for prehe conceived there ought to be a general and spontaneous burst of feelings, and that those who attended at one place should appear and take the lead at others. But he thought, at the same time, he should not pay proper respect to the independent freeholders of the county of Middlesex, if, being in town, he did not attend a meeting so convened. He had hoped, as the business had that day been discussed with so much ability by many individuals, that he would not have been called on to address the meeting; but as an hon. gentleman (Mr. Waithman) had expressed a wish that he should deliver his sentiments on this exhausted topic, he would state those observations that occurred to him at the moment. The worthy alderman who called him forward rendered the task imposed on him somewhat difficult, he having himself discussed the question with great force and eloquence. To address any assembly of Englishmen on this occasion, on a political subject, he felt to be more incumbent on him than he had ever felt it to be before, because it was a duty that could not be performed without some risk and danger. The government under which they now of moment: but they were inlived, whatever its incapacities might be, certainly possessed the great cause of public justhis capacity—that it well knew tice. It was not difficult to adwhen to owe and when to pay dress one's self to an assembly (applause;) and the punish on a topic like this, because it

time, heard that the present inflicted on individuals looked tend, because, on such occasions, sent offences. In such a state of things innocence was no protection, caution was no security. No sagacity that any man might possess could induce him confidently to say, "I will perform my duties to the people of England, because I am secure under the laws of my country." (Applause.) For his own part, he was in the situation of those persons who had proceeded to such a length, that " to return was as tedious as to go on."-Undoubtedly no honour could be gained by retreating, whatever danger might be incurred by proceeding farther. The principles he had adopted were well known to the country, and he hoped he should always have the fortitude to maintain them with firmness. (Applause.) He considered this subject in precisely the same light as the honourable member for Coventry: he did not look on it so much on account of any particular individual, however elevated the rank of that individual might be; he did not view it with such deep anxiety because a Queen of England was intimately connected with the pending proceedings, although that was a cause sufficient to interest every manly mind. These circumstances were undoubtedly significant when compared with

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the best interests of the coundelivering his sentiments on this occasion, he was obliged to call to the minds of his afflicted countrymen a time full of public misfortune and private suffering-a time when innocent blood had been shed by that sword which should only be used against the enemies of the country, but which had been wielded against the people, peaceably and legally assembled .-The present period was replete on every side with party feeling and political animosity, and therefore was one of extreme danger. He might say further, that it was one of extreme weakness on the part of the people, and of extreme power on the part of their oppressors. Though they had now arrived at the seventh year of peace, the present period was more cruel than a time of absolute war. That so much vaunted period of peace was a long term of unmitigable suffering. (Applause.) They saw the sword still brandished in the eyes of the peaceable citizens. The government would not lay down its arms, and yet they had no other enemies than the people of England. (Applause.) He well knew what every Englishman must feel when he saw that a government of the sword had superseded the government of the laws—when he saw the land covered with barracks, and beheld fortifications rising in

was intimately connected with apprehension save that which the expression of public sentitry; and sorry he was, that, in | ment and public feeling instilled into the minds of those who held the reins of government. (Applause.) Under these circumstances it was that the same reports of Secret Committees, the same modes of secret accusation, were made use of to oppress the Queen, that had formerly been resorted to for the oppression of the people. The people had been the victim of green-bag information, and their laws, rights, and liberties, had been suspended on the reports of secret committees. The lives of many of them had been risked in consequence of their attempts to propagate constitutional principles; the health of some had been sacrificed by long protracted confinement for the same cause; and accumulated sufferings were heaped on all those who had dared to think for themselves. Individuals had been incarcerated for two, three, five, and one individual whom he knew, for seven years, without being brought to any trial-without being called to face any accuser. Therefore it was that he called their attention to the mode of trial adopted in this case, because if they did not make a stand against the extraordinary danger with which they were threatened, no man in the land, from the highest to the lowest, could hope to escape such treatment. To call it a judicial proceeding would be an abuse of language. What every part of the country. All ministers quoted as precedents this was done with no pretence were nothing but acts of atroof foreign danger, without any cious tyranny; but not one of

them was to be compared to that the most extraordinary situamonstrous acme of injustice tion: she appeared, from the which was attempted in the first to last, attended by a train present instance. (Here the of misfortunes, which nothing hon, bart, alluded to the bills but her own magnanimity and against Bishop Atterbury and courage could enable her to Sir John Fenwick, both of which stand up against—such a train he strongly condemned.) It of misfortunes, that, let her conwould have been more to the duct herself in whatever way honour of those who were the she might, she was sure to create authors of those bills-more to the honour of the Revolutionmore to the honour of those who ever qualities she was said to came into power after the Revolution, and more conducive good or bad—they had had the to the safety of the govern- sure effect of inducing some ment of King William, if a more persons to take part against her. constitutional course had been Her amiable qualities were no pursued, and if, by violating the protection to her; "her virtues laws in order to reach one in- were sanctified and holy traitors dividual, a precedent had not to her;" one party persecuted been found which exposed the her on account of the hatred liberties of posterity to destruc- they bore to her vices, and tion. There were other acts of another party abandoned her out a similar nature besides those to of love and affection to her which he had adverted; but virtues. (Applause.) She was, they were to be found only in however, in his opinion, entitled the reign of that monster to the support of every honest Henry VIII., who had a short and every manly mind: he way of getting rid of his wives. I thought the decision she had Times, however, were now evinced, the firmness she had changed; the public mind exhibited, the magnanimity with would not bear such proceed- which she had come forward to ings; ministers could not get meet the charge made against into that bloody course which her, by throwing herself on those precedents pointed out. that sense of justice for which What were all those precedents the people of this country ever but so many acts of tyrannical were and ever would be repower wreaked on the victims nowned, demanded the conof royal vengeance, which fidence of the nation. should be pointed out as shoals were bound to believe her in to be avoided, as beacons of in- nocent, when she came to famy, instead of being made use this country and defied all the of by ministers to justify their statements of her most virulent own conduct to the world? enemies. (Applause.) With respect to to substantiate the charge this lady, she seemed, of all against her, to bring her face to

enemies: Whatever actions were attributed to her-whatpossess, whether they were They She called on them human beings, to be placed in face with her accusers, or else to

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public, and pay to her that rehigh rank. Fortunately for her Majesty her cause had been taken up by the great body of the people at large, and had been supported with great force and ability by the uncorrupt and honourable part of the press. Before ministers pushed this measure further, let them look at the gulf that was yawning at their feet. If they were not as blind as moles—and their work was equally dark and dirty—they would see that the same pit that buried the crown of the Queen might also swallow up the crown of the King. When precedents were new formed, for arbitrary and oppressive purposes, there was no security for the length to which they might be carried. It was alleged by Ministers that this was a national question, and that the state was interested in the investigation which they had been pleased to institute. But how could any act commited by her Majesty on the banks of Como be said to be a national uestion? And was it to be enured that this construction was be given under the cant of reigion and morality? Could moality and religion say, that the ation were to be shockd at the knowledge of her Maesty's conduct in Italy, which nowledge was only communiated to the country through the epresentatives of that religion nd that morality? If such cir-

state her innocence to the depriving a sovereign of rank and power, none but a saint spect which was due to her could sit with safety on a throne. But, admitting the validity of the argument attempted to be founded on morality, was example on the part of the Queen only of importance to the nation? Surely the conduct of the King was in this respect at least an object of equal consideration? Whether ministers, in the dangerous path which they were now pursuing-a, path beset with dangers both to the Crown and to the country. -would attend to the warning voice of the public, was not the question to be considered at present. It was the duty of the people to express their opinions fearlessly and openly, whether they were attended to or neglected. (Applause.) After some further observations, in the course of which he condemned the punishments that had recently been inflicted on individuals who had been found guilty of exerting themselves in the cause of reform, particularly instancing the sentence of Mr. Hunt, which he described to be cruel and undeserved, the hon-Baronet concluded by declaring. that he was happy to lend his assistance on this occasion to oppose a system of government under which no man could possibly be safe. Charge les

Mr. HOBHOUSE was then loudly: called for, and came forward amidst general cheers. He begged leave to assure, them; in conjunction with his honourable umstances were calculated to and worthy colleague, Sir. F. hock the feelings of a nation, Burdett, that his being present nd to become the grounds of at the meeting was purely acci-

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dental, and that on entering the only the conviction of governroom he had no intention of troubling them with his sentiments on the momentous question which had called them together. If it had been thought difficult by those who had preceded him to secure the attention of the audience, he must feel that difficulty in a still greater degree; but, connected as he was with a large portion of the inhabitants of the metropolitan city, it was his duty to obey the catt which had been made on him. and to speak his mind freely, without looking to any personal consequences. It was impossible at the present juncture for a man to know whether he was committing a crime or not; and perhaps he was at that moment subjecting himself to such punishment as his Majesty's Attorney-General might be pleased to inflict. He was convinced that those individuals who were now suffering in the cause of reform, and whose names had been mentioned by the hon, baronet, had been no more conscious that they were committing a crime upon the hustings at Manchester, or at Birmingham, than he was of violating the laws in addressing them at present. But, were he even sure of the same punishment that had been inflicted on those persons, he should not refrain from expressing his sentiments, and discharging his duty in the case of the Manchester to his country (applause). The present attack on the Queen of England was no more than had been seen on other occasions: it was only one additional instance of open injustice, perpe-

ment-he meant his Majesty's ministers—that they had the power to do so, which emboldened them to make the attempt. But they had the satisfaction to know that even all the present ministers of the crown did not approve of the measures which had been pursued towards her Majesty; one of them had, in his place in parliament, expressed his reluctance to join in the prosecution, and had stated his opinion that her Majesty was as deserving as ever of affectionate regard (applause). And were not the people of England to believe so till the contrary were proved? Were they to be deterred from doing justice because the ministers deprecated and cried out against popular clamour? That which was now ealled clamour was the same voice that had been raised from one end of the country to the other when innocent persons had been sabred and trampled to death while legally and peaceably assembled in the exercise of their The same undoubted rights. arguments had been used on this occasion to prevent public meetings as had been urged after the Manchester massacre: requisitionists had been told by certain sheriffs, and other official persons, that they were not for prejudging the question. But affair, when meetings were re-fused, had inquiry been ultimately instituted in parliament, and had redress been obtained for the injured? No; the answers of ministers in parliament trated by open force. It was had been, that the conduct of

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the Magistrates and Yeomanry investigation in a court of law, and that therefore the question would be prejudged by a parliamentary inquiry; but when the trial of those accused by the government came on at York, no evidence could be admitted respecting the conduct of those who had committed the mur-In the same manner, ders. when the bill at present pending in parliament against her Majesty should be passed, the people would be told that it was as absurd to express their opinion on the subject after the bill was passed, as it was improper to prejudge it before (applause). The prosecutors of her Majesty, in producing precedents for the course of proceeding which they had adopted, said they would not go farther back than the revolution. He would wish the people to go no farther back than the period of the revolution (applause). If ministers thought they could find, in the proceedings of that period, certain rules by which their conduct was to be regulated on the present occasion, the people might also think that they could find something which their ancestors had done with glory to themselves, and with benefit to the nation, and the example of which they might do well to imitate (applause).

Mr. FLANNAGAN moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Alderman Wood for his conduct in all the offices which he had hitherto filled, but particularly for the manner in which he had acted

The resolution was received would become the subject of with loud acclamations, and was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Alderman Woop stepped forward to return thanks, but the expressions of approbation prevented him for some time from being heard. He had found it necessary, for reasons which they would excuse him for not stating. to remain silent on this question, not only in the House of Commons, but at all public meetings, and even in private society; yet he must not be altogether dumb in returning thanks for the honour they had done him. There was not a man, he was convinced, in that county, or in this kingdom, who, if he had been in possession of the same facts which had been known to him for several months, would have acted otherwise than he had done. He had knowledge that this illustrious lady was in the hands of betrayers: she had been placed in that situation, in which, if something had not speedily been done, she perhaps would never have reached these shores. She had evinced a bold and determined feeling, and in his opinion she was right in coming to England (applause). The whole empire had felt the justice of that sentiment; even ministers, who had attempted to prevent her from coming here, admitted, now that she had arrived, that she had acted correctly (cheers). In doing what he had done, he had merely performed his duty as an Englishman. Circumstances emanating from a high quarter led him to believe that this illustrious individual was to be sacrificed. He had in consequence proceeded to the continent, and he was sure there was no man who towards her Majesty the Queen. heard him who would not, under the

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same circumstances, and actuated by the same feelings, have proceeded to the most distant part of the world, for the purpose of giving her every assistance in his power. He would have gone to the continent at an earlier period if his official duties had not detained him in England. Her Majesty, previously to his leaving this country, being determined to meet the charges brought against her, be they what they might, had ordered him to send a ship to Leghorn to bring her over. He, however, did not think it right to take that step without consulting other individuals; and that circumstance alone was the cause of the delay that had taken place. Every day, every hour, her cause wore a more favourable appearance. The evidence to which persons of distinction had deposed was so decidedly in her favour, that he thought it was impossible, notwithstanding the strong opinion which had been given by his hon, friend of the corruption of the two Houses of Parliament, for any tribunal to find her guilty (cheers). Those who supported her cause looked not for place or preferment, while those who were arrayed against her were supported by pensions drawn from the labour of the people. The persons to whom he alluded received more than three mil-

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lions annually out of the public funds (shame, shame). He was sure it would give them great pleasure to hear that her Majesty was at the present moment in the highest possible spirits. Within the last 24 hours, he had heard her express herself in these words-"I would not exchange my situation with any woman in the world." (Cheers.) She said this while reasoning on her situation-arguing on it with that talent which she was well known to possess, and with a full knowledge of all the enemies she had to encounter. Yet, under such circumstances, these were the magnanimous expressions that fell from her (applause). He could inform the meeting that on the first day of the trial she meant to go down to the House of Lords at 10 o'clock in the morning, and she never would leave it as long as the proceedings were going on. For strong reasons which induced him at present to be silent, they would not expect that he should enter into the merits of the case; and therefore he should only add again his thanks for the honour which the meeting had done him,-(Great applause).

Thanks having been voted to the Sheriff, and to the Members of the Committee, the meeting was dissolved.

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